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1854
A BRIEF RELATION
OF THE
PAST AND PRESENT STATE
OF THE
ROYAL AND RELIGIOUS FOUNDATION
OF
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

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ROYAL AND RELIGIOUS FOUNDATION
OF
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

BY
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THE ARGUMENT.

THEREFORE gentle Master Raphael (quoth I), I pray you and beseech you describe unto us the Iland, and study not to bee short, but declare largely in order their grounds, their rivers, their cities, their people, their manners, their ordinances, their lawes, and to bee short all things that you shall thinke us desirous to know, and you shall thinke us desirous to know whatsoever we know not yet.

There is nothing (quoth hee) that I will doe gladlier. For all these things I have fresh in minde: But the matter requireth leisure. Let us goe in therefore (quoth I) to dinner, and afterward wee will bestow the time at our pleasure. Content (quoth hee) be it. So wee went in and dined.

When dinner was done, we came into the same place again, and sate us downe upon the same bench, commanding our servants that no man should trouble us. Then I and Master Peter Giles desired Master Raphael to performe his promise.

Hee therefore seeing us desirous and willing to hearken to him, when he had sate still and paused a little while, musing and bethinking himselfe, thus he began to speake. (Utopia, Book I.)

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THE PATRON OF THIS HOSPITAL.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW is named as one of the twelve apostles by St. Matthew, St. Mark, and St. Luke, while St. John mentions Nathanael immediately after Philip in the place where the other evangelists have Bartholomew. Theologians are of opinion that Nathanael Bartholomew, or son of Talmai, was his full designation. The little that is said of him in the Gospels is sufficient to show that he was a thoughtful man, both learned and acute, not merely admiring the past, but using its lessons in the present; venerating ancient tradition, but ready at once to grasp new truths. It was to him that the commendation was given: "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile." Such a character is one most fitly placed before physicians, surgeons, and students in a great

hospital and medical school like this as an example, and were we choosing a patron saint at this day no wiser choice could be made. But in the remote times when this foundation began the growth of a school of medicine in Smithfield was not foreseen, and the apostle became our patron for reasons depending on the personal history of our founder and on the feelings of his time.

The traditions of the early Middle Ages state that St. Bartholomew travelled as far as the Indies, preaching the gospel. In a remote country he took lodgings in a temple where in the interior of an idol there dwelt a fiend. This idol had great repute as a healer of diseases, but as a matter of fact, says the legend, he could not destroy their diseases, but only relieved their pains for a time. This led to a decline of the idol's reputation, and the Indians consulted another idol, who at once told them that since Bartholomew had come into the country the day of idols was past. "Who is this Bartholomew?" said they. The idol replied, "He is the friend of the Almighty, and has come here to drive out all such gods as we." "Tell us how to know him," said the

Indians ; and the idol gave a long description of the personal aspect of the apostle and of his habits and powers.¹ He was soon found, and healed vast numbers of sick and insane who were brought to him, and among them the king's daughter. The king sent him as a reward several camels laden with gold, silver, and jewels, but the apostle, appearing at court next morning, explained that the accumulation of wealth was not his object in life, and preached the faith to the king and queen, who accepted it, were baptized, left their thrones, and followed Bartholomew as his disciples. The king's brother, an inconvertible pagan, when he heard that his favourite idol was overturned, seized the apostle, beat him, and ended by ordering him to be skinned alive. Hence, as in the two pictures in our great hall, St. Bartholomew is represented with a flaying knife in his hand. A hymn contained in a manuscript old enough to have been read by

¹ Considerable difference of opinion prevailed in the Middle Ages as to the apostle's personal appearance. Thus the Golden Legend describes him as having black hair, while a manuscript written in Rahere's time by Maelbrigte hua Maeluanaig, and now in the British Museum, says that he had red hair and a short beard.

our founder¹ thus sums up the medical powers of our patron saint:

Mundat leprosos
saluti pristinæ
et reddit ægros,

Vestivit cæcos
præsenti lumine
fecitque sanos.

Oratio ejus
paralyticos erigit
atque curat energumenos.

Nam Indici natam
regis diu lunaticam
sola prece salvam fecerat.

Many hospitals were dedicated to him in England in the eleventh and twelfth centuries; and as several of them survive, and may perhaps be under the care of some among our distinguished guests of to-day, it is right to name them so as to show that we claim no undue precedence. The earliest was that founded by Bishop Gundulph, at Chatham, between 1087 and 1100. The others are contemporaneous

¹ F. J. Mone: "Hymni Latini Medii Ævi," 1855, vol. iii., p. 123.

or subsequent to our own foundation. They were at Oxford¹ in the reign of King Henry I : at Dover in 1141 : at Gloucester² one between 1154 and 1189, and another by King Henry III. : at Sandwich in 1190, by Thomas Cromp-thorn and his wife Maud : and at Newbury by King John. A hospital of St. Bartholomew at Saltwood, near Hythe, in Kent, was probably founded in 1336. Public attention had been drawn to St. Bartholomew in England by an event which occurred in the reign of King Cnut, and between the years 1020 and 1035. The Bishop of Benevento came to England to try and obtain money for the relief of a famine in Apulia. In his cathedral was preserved a body said to be that of St. Bartholomew. It had been enshrined there with great pomp on October 25th, 839, and every one in Benevento believed that it had somehow come from Armenia, after the apostle's martyrdom, to Lipari, where it was kept till the tomb was rifled by the Saracens ; that a monk who discovered the bones by their peculiar phospho-

¹ Tanner : " *Notitia Monastica*," London, 1744; pp. 421, 213, 149, 218, 19, 225.

² Fosbrooke : " *History of Gloucester*," London, 1819.

rescence had brought them to Benevento; and that when in the year 1000 the Emperor Otho III. insisted on having the body, that of St. Paulinus was given to him, and by him carried to Rome and placed in the Church of St. Bartholomew, on the island in the Tiber, under the delusion that it was that of the apostle.¹ The Bishop of Benevento brought with him to England the bones of one arm of St. Bartholomew, and showed them to Emma, Cnut's queen. She wished to acquire the relic, and made careful inquiry as to its genuineness. There was a great assembly in Canterbury Cathedral, and the Italian Bishop swore on the altar, in the presence of Cnut and Emma, that "Ipsum os Beati Bartholomei apostoli proprium fuisse nec (and, considering the transaction about St. Paulinus, this was a necessary addition), ipsi assertioni suæ aliquid omnino sophismatis

¹ ACTA Petitionis, Decreti, Elevationis, Recognitionis, Ostensionis, Repositionis, Translationis, Restitutionis, et Consignationis Sacri Corporis Gloriosissimi Apostoli S. BARTHOLOMEI in nova Basilica Beneventi eidem erecta in Sacro Concilio Provinciali II. *Anno Domini 1698* præside eminentissimo Cardinali Ursino Archiepiscopo Metropolita, typis data instantibus Illustrissimis consulibus Magistratus ejusdem civitatis, Beneventi 1698. E typographia archiepiscopali superiorum permissu.

aut æquivocationis inesse."¹ The queen gave him ever so many pounds of silver for the starving Apuleians, and he gave her the relic, which she presented to the monks of Canterbury.

Aethelnoth, the Archbishop of Canterbury, gave the Bishop of Benevento at parting a splendid and curious cope. Three monks, Edwy, Blachemann, and Farman, who were present, told Eadmer, the friend and biographer of Anselm when they were old and he in his boyhood, of the ceremony and the cope, and when he was at Bari in Italy, in 1098, with Anselm, he could not take his eyes off a cope worn by the then Bishop of Benevento at a papal council. He told Anselm that it reminded him of the one given by Aethelnoth, and when he afterwards talked to the bishop, it proved to be the very cope brought from Canterbury about 1020. The acquisition of this relic, and its solemn public reception before Cnut and his queen, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, no doubt spread the knowledge of the legend of St. Bartholomew throughout England, and thus was one cause of the numerous dedications mentioned above.

¹ Eadmer: "Historia Novorum in Angliâ," edited by Martin Rule (Rolls Series, 1884).

THE FOUNDER.

Rahere, our founder, believed that the apostle had appeared to him in a dream during his convalescence from malarial fever, and had desired him to build a hospital for the poor on the outskirts of London. This was when he was in Rome as a pilgrim about the year 1120. He had acquired the fever when visiting the site of the martyrdom of St. Paul, a spot till recently of bad repute for its malaria. It is highly probable, though not mentioned in his life,¹ a work written by a man who knew some of his contemporaries, that he may have been cared for, during his illness, on the Island of St. Bartholomew in the Tiber, an island connected with medicine since the days of the Roman republic, when a temple of Æsculapius was built upon it, the great columns of which are enclosed in the present church.

¹ Liber fundacionis ecclesie sancti Bartholomei Londoniarum, manuscript Vespasian, B. ix., in British Museum, composed in the reign of Henry II. An English version in same manuscript, made about 1400, is printed in the St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports, vol. xxi., 1885.

A pestilence had lasted for three years in Rome, the Sibylline books were consulted, Greek physicians were sent for, and Æsculapius himself, the god of healing, came in their ship in the form of a serpent curled round the top-mast.

The scene and the island are described in Ovid :¹

 Jamque caput rerum Romanam intraverat urbem
 Erigitur serpens; summoque acclinia malo
 Colla movet: sedesque sibi circumspicit aptas.
 Scinditur in geminas partes circumfluus amnis:
 Insula nomen habet: laterumque a parte duorum
 Porrigit æquales media tellure lacertos.
 Huc se de Latia pinu Phœbeïus anguis
 Contulit: et finem, specie cæleste resumta,
 Luctibus imposuit; venitque salutifer Urbi.

Many of us have seen in Rome the figure of the snake carved on the Travertine cliff of the island, itself shaped into the resemblance of a galley. St. Augustine alludes to the story in his "De Civitate Dei," lib. iii., cap. xvii., as an illustration of the folly of heathenism and the miseries of the heathen world; and Valerius Maximus, a pagan writer,

¹ "Metamorphoses," book xv., 736.

in his book, "Exemplorum Memorabilium," lib. i., cap. viii., dedicated to the Emperor Tiberius, relates it as an example of a genuine miracle. The last sentence of the tenth book of Livy mentions the plague, and shows that he was acquainted with the *Æsculapian* incident.

We like to think that Rahere was treated on this Tiberine island of St. Bartholomew when ill in Rome, thus to trace the connection of our Hospital through the physicians from Epidaurus with the Hippocratic clan, and so to join our history with that of Hippocrates himself, the father of medicine. Our founder, whose name is probably of Frankish origin, was a Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral,¹ his prebend being Chamberlain Wood, before his pilgrimage to Rome, and returned thence a canon regular of St. Austin. He founded the Priory of St. Bartholomew as well as this Hospital, and before bidding us good-bye our guests may care to visit the tomb in the well-preserved Norman choir of the church of the Priory, in which his bones rest to this day. The Rev. Sir Borra-

¹ Le Neve: "Fasti Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ," Oxford, 1854, vol. ii., p. 374.

daile Savory, son of our late senior surgeon and lecturer on surgery, is the rector of the church which has thus at this day some friendly association with the hospital. Rahere founded the hospital in 1123 on land which he obtained from King Henry I. through the influence of Richard of Belesme, Bishop of London, and before his death the site was further enlarged by grants of adjacent land by Michael de Valecius in the year of the foundation, and by John Becomte, William FitzSabeline, and Hersant, wife of Walter of St. Loy, in 1139. He died September 20th, 1143.

THE HOSPITAL

The Hospital built by Rahere occupied the site of the present one, and, like it, had a principal gate in Smithfield and a gate in Little Britain, as well as two other gates not now existing. The hospital buildings were smaller than at present ; and were connected with a great hall, in which were probably most of the beds. Several chapels, with lodgings for their chaplains by them, stood within the enclosure, as well as many private houses, some of which had gardens. The great hall had a large fireplace in the middle, and King Henry III. made a present to the hospital on September 11th, 1223, and again in 1224, in these terms :

“ The king to Engelard de Cigoyny greeting. We command you to give to the patients of the Hospital of St. Bartholomew in London as our gift one old oak in our forest of Windsor on the Thames, with the least possible injury to our forest and the greatest use to the aforesaid patients for their hearth.”¹

¹ T. D. Hardy: “ Rotuli Literarum clausarum in turri Londinensi,” 1833, vol. i.; and the original roll now in the Public Record Office.

The original Hospital¹ had eight brethren and four sisters, and they elected a head who was called master, or proctor, or warden. When elected he had to be presented to the Prior of St. Bartholomew's for institution ; or, if the Prior refused to confirm his election, to the Bishop of London. He and every brother, on admission, had to swear obedience to the Prior and Canons of St. Bartholomew's Church, and he had to render an account twice a year of all receipts and expenditure in the presence of the Bishop of London and of the Prior.

On Palm Sunday, Ascension Day, and the Feast of St. Bartholomew, the Master and Brethren of the Hospital made a solemn procession to St. Bartholomew's Priory, and deposited an offering on the high altar there.

The Hospital was popular in London, and many citizens added to its property.

Two prominent ones became benefactors : Henry FitzElwin, the first Mayor, and Thomas, who, after employment in the commercial house of Octodenarius, in Cheapside, rose to the

¹ A work which will contain a complete account of the site and possessions of the hospital in the Middle Ages is in course of preparation by Mr. W. H. Cross and Dr. Norman Moore.

highest posts open to a subject in England, died a martyr at Canterbury, and was afterwards for several centuries reverenced as the greatest of Londoners, and represented on the common seal of the City. FitzElwin gave property, and Becket his blessing. The Hospital became connected with the first foundation of English liberty after the Conquest, for William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, son of Henry II., one of the witnesses of Magna Charta, gave something to improve the hospital diet in these words of his will: "Item¹ assignavi Hospitali Sancti Bartholomei de London octo boves." He died 7th March, 1226. It is interesting to remember that the hospital has a connection not only with the foundation stone of personal freedom in this country, but with the last finial of the edifice of English liberty. Into one of its wards Granville Sharp obtained admission, in 1765, for Jonathan Strong, the negro whose treatment he brought before the courts, and whose cause was the commencement of the litigation which ended with Lord Mansfield's famous judgment on Somerset's case on June 22nd, 1772,

¹ "Rotuli Lit. Claus. ii.," 71.

that the condition of slavery was never in use in England, and that the claim to own a slave could not be allowed by the law,

For four hundred years but little change took place in the constitution of St. Bartholomew's. Master succeeded master, the wealth of the foundation increased, and in the reign of Richard II. the first book containing medical observations made in the Hospital was written, the famous "*Breviarium Bartholomei*" of John Mirfeld. In 1532 the thirty-ninth and last master was elected—John Brereton, a doctor of laws, a royal chaplain who obtained a dispensation to hold his other preferments, a stall at St. Paul's and two livings in the diocese of Lichfield, with his mastership. In the State Paper Office there is a record of a pardon granted to him for having obtained the papal consent, and confirming its purport. On June 23rd, 1534, he subscribed to the royal supremacy, and thus secured his gains and got rid of his duties. The first master of the Hospital was once a Canon of St. Paul's, and so was the last, but this was the only point of resemblance between Rahere and Dr. John Brereton.

The possessions of St. Bartholomew's Hos-

pital were surrendered into the hands of the king. The Attorney-General bought Rahere's other foundation, the Priory; but the Hospital remained legally if not actually vacant, without master, without brethren, without patients. No grant or sale of the site or fabric or external possessions took place, and probably some of its former inhabitants lingered about the building. The Act of Dissolution was in 1536 (27 Henry VIII., cap. 28).

In the winter of 1538¹ the citizens petitioned the king to give them the vacant Hospital, with other foundations—

“for the onely relyeff of the poore sykke and nedy persones.”

The petition of his “poore humble and most obedient subjects the Mayre, aldermen and cominaltye” of the “citye and chamber of London” to their “most redoughted puyssant and myghty prynce, our most drad beloved and natural sovraign lorde” begins with many praises of the king, and goes on to ask two things:

¹ “Memoranda, References, and Documents relating to the Royal Hospitals of the City of London.” Printed under direction of the Committee of the Court of Common Council, 1836.

“ The fyrst ys, for the ayde and conforte of the poor sykke blynde aged and impotent persones, beyng not hable to helpe themselffs nor havyng any place certeyn wherbyn they may be lodged cherysshed and refreshed tyll they be cured and holpen of theyre dyseases and syknesse. For the helpe of the sayd poore people, we enforme your Grace that there be nere and wythyn the cytē of London three hospytalls or spytells comenly called Saynt Mary Spytell, Saynt Bartylmewes Spytell, and Saynt Thomas Spytell, and one abbey called the Newe Abbey at Tower hyll, fownded of good devocion by auncyent fathers, and endowed with great possessions and rents, onely for the relyeff conforte and ayde of the poore and indygent people not beyng hable to helpe themselffs.”

The second prayer is that four large churches in the City be restored to use.

It was more than five years before the part of the petition referring to St. Bartholomew's received any substantial notice from the king. On 23rd June, 1544, letters patent were issued, re-establishing the Hospital for its original purpose. The corporate body was modelled on the old form, and was to consist of a master and four chaplains. All were to be in priest's orders, and the chaplains were to have each distinct duties, and were to be called—the first,

vice master; the second, curate; the third, hospitaller; the fourth, visitor of the prisoners in Newgate. A royal chaplain, William Turges, Bachelor of Divinity, is named as the first master of this foundation.

A great many inmates of religious houses had subscribed to the royal supremacy, and were thus courtiers hard to satisfy and unsafe to leave altogether unsatisfied. Some were given pensions, some places. The place of vice-master at St. Bartholomew's was given to Thomas Hickling, a priest of the College of St. Martin-le-Grand, who was also given a pension of four pounds a year. Robert Harpyng was curate; John Arley, hospitaller; and Ralph Cooke, visitor of prisoners in Newgate.

The endowment was granted to the aforesaid master and chaplains of Saint Bartholomew, in West Smithfield, near London, of

“the whole of the aforesaid site inclosure circuit ambit and precincts of the aforesaid late hospital with all canals aqueducts and ancient privileges liberties and free customs whatsoever of the same late hospital and the whole church there, together with all chapels bells belfreys closets dormitories leaden pipes cemeteries messuages houses buildings covered ways curtelages gardens orchards lakes

fishponds, and all other places lands and territories within the same site—and which as part parts or parcel of the same late site were commonly reputed or esteemed, which lately belonged to John Breerton, Doctor of Laws, last master, and the brethren of the same, in right of that late hospital, together with all and all manner of vases jewels ornaments goods chattels and implements of the same late hospital with all their appurtenances."

The members of the new corporate body were favourites of King Henry VIII., or favourites of his favourites. "As there generally is some resemblance of character to create these relations," says Burke, "the favourite was in all likelihood much such another as his master."

Turges, the master, was a royal chaplain, and though we have no record of their proceedings, there are indications that they did all in their power to make money out of St. Bartholomew's, and little or nothing for the poor.

They probably sold the library. Stow remembered it in its old state, and speaks of "the spoile of that library." A little later the citizens complained that all the household furniture had disappeared, so that there was but just enough

for three or four patients, and hardly that if cleanliness was regarded.

Rapacity was the order of the day, at court and among courtiers. Turges and his chaplains no doubt made what they could, but their opportunities were not very great. There was an ancient privilege within the Hospital of freedom from arrest, which may in some way have given rise to some small emolument from dues. For the rest, the endowment was the site and no more. The letters patent set forth that the king's object was to bring the corporal works of mercy to bear upon the poor, but his Majesty seemed to forget that to comfort prisoners, to shelter the poor, to visit the sick, to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, and to bury the dead, there must be wherewithal to purchase food, drink, physic, and clothes. This endowment is perhaps to be explained on the supposition that while it was necessary to secure the good-will of the citizens by attention to their petition, some great person expected to obtain grant or easy purchase of the external possessions of the Hospital. A memorial of this constitution exists in the date 1544, upon a picture of King Henry

VIII. in brocade, and with a staff in his hand, which is over the fireplace in the committee room. The hospitaller, who may be seen every day walking across the quadrangle in a trencher cap, is the only officer of this constitution who has survived to our times. The vicar of the parish has usually held the office, and by virtue of it acts as chaplain, and as a friendly adviser to all patients who ask his services. The endowment was, of course, incompetent for its professed object. The citizens did not cease to urge their wishes, which were probably strengthened in the eyes of politicians by the number of discontented poor which the dissolution of so many corporations formerly giving relief had turned upon the country. In 1547 fresh letters patent restored to the Hospital almost the whole of its former possessions. In the great hall there is a painted window in which Sir Richard Gresham, father of the more famous Sir Thomas, on his knees is receiving this charter from the king. Sir Richard Gresham was Lord Mayor in 1537, and had taken a prominent part in the petition about the Hospital.

A new name was to be given to the Hospital. It shall hereafter be called, say the letters

patent, "the House of the poor in West Smithfield, near London, of the foundation of King Henry VIII." The old name was, however, too strong for the new enactment, and with the exception of its occasional use in a few subsequent legal instruments was never in vogue, so that St. Bartholomew's Hospital has continued to be known by its ancient designation to this day.

No mention is made of the letters patent of 1544 in those of 1547, and the only trace of the first new constitution is that Thomas Hickling, in 1544 named vice-master, is in 1547 made first "vicar perpetual of the church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less in West Smithfield." The site of the Hospital is formally established as a parish. The Hospital and its endowments were vested in the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London.

The Common Council of the City in 1548 enacted that four aldermen and eight commoners of the City should thenceforth have the survey, rule, order, and governance of the House of the Poor in West Smithfield, and the revenues thereof. They were to be appointed by the Lord Mayor and aldermen for the time

being, and were to hold office for two years, one half going out by rotation every year. The senior of the four aldermen was called the president; one of the commoners was treasurer.

This was the first new governing body of which any records are preserved. It appears to have gradually acquired the power of electing on various grounds other persons to be governors, chiefly on that of some considerable benefaction to the Hospital.

The reign of Edward VI. saw some comparatively unimportant changes in the method of appointment of the members of the corporation who were to superintend the administration of the Hospital. In subsequent years the corporation did not always nominate a full number, and in course of time governors elected from benefaction or service to the Hospital became more numerous, and the corporation, as such, ceased to take an active part in the affairs of the Hospital.

The existence of the governing body of the Hospital as a corporation in itself was obviously convenient, and had become completely established by usage before the year 1666. In 1782

this usage was formally confirmed by Act of Parliament. Certain governors are nominated by the corporation of the City of London from its members, and the remaining governors are elected on the grounds of benefaction or of service to the Hospital. The president is its titular head, and the chief executive officer is the treasurer. Since 1867 the Hospital has had the great advantage and honour of having His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as its President.

Such, in outline, has been the growth of the constitution of St. Bartholomew's Hospital since it escaped the confiscation of its lands in the reign of Henry VIII., a growth in which the power of usage and of obvious convenience are illustrated as they are so often in the history of England.

Every governor when elected, in accordance with an ancient custom, receives a green staff with white letters—the family colours, it is believed, of the House of Tudor, the royal house in whose time the Hospital changed its mediæval aspect for a modern one. At the end of the great hall hangs a full-length portrait of King Henry VIII. in doublet and

hose straddling over the fire with the Order of the Garter on his leg. Strangers sometimes say, why do you honour this arbitrary sovereign so much ? his figure is over the Smithfield gate, and here and in the committee room. We can give no better explanation than that which Burke gave of the dedication of temples to Warren Hastings: "He well knew there were temples dedicated in India to two very different sorts of divinities, to Brama and Vishnu, the good and guardian deities to whom the natives returned thanks for the benefits they had received, and to Rudor, the evil spirit whose unwearied enmity and malign influence they deprecated."

THE PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

The Hospital thrrove under its new settlement, and was soon equipped with a medical staff differing from that at present flourishing only in numbers. Since 1547, including those at present in office, there have been some fifty physicians and seventy-two surgeons. The fame of Harvey (1609), the most illustrious of the physicians, outshines that of any other member of the staff: though on the medical side many men accomplished in a great variety of ways may be enumerated: Timothy Bright (1583), the inventor of shorthand; Thomas d'Oyley (1590), the friend of Bacon; Sir John Micklethwaite (1643); Dr. Christopher Terne (1653), the learned anatomist; Francis Bernard (1678), so famous, like his tenth successor Anthony Askew (1754), for his noble library; Edward Browne (1682), whose delightful travels record his visits to Larissa in Thessaly to study the region in which Hippocrates practised, and to many other curious regions of Eastern Europe; Robert Pitt (1697), the scholarly writer on apothecaries and pharmacology;

Henry Levett (1707), who as an undergraduate member of the foundation shared in the manly resistance to arbitrary power at Magdalen College, Oxford, in the reign of James II., which Macaulay has painted with more brightness and life than the skilful artist who has represented the scene on the walls of the Houses of Parliament; David Pitcairn (1784), the discoverer of the relation between rheumatic fever and heart disease; William Austin (1786), also our first lecturer on chemistry, who is known to a few as having shown that the chalk-stones of gout are not made of chalk, but to many from the sonnet of Cowper, written in 1792—

“Austin! accept a grateful verse from me,
The poet’s treasure, no inglorious fee.
Loved by the Muses, thy ingenuous mind
Pleasing requital in my verse may find;
Verse oft has dashed the scythe of Time aside,
Immortalizing names which else had died.
And oh! could I command the glittering wealth
With which sick kings are glad to purchase health;
Yet, if extensive fame, and sure to live,
Were in the power of verse like mine to give,
I would not recompense his art with less,
Who, giving Mary health, heals my distress.
Friend of my friend! I love thee, though unknown,
And boldly call thee, being his, my own;”

John Latham (1793), who wrote on diabetes, on rheumatism, and on gout; Richard Powell (1801), whose Gulstonian lectures on jaundice are still studied; Peter Mere Latham (1824), whose clinical lectures are justly placed among English medical classics; Sir George Burrows (1841), whose repute is still fresh; Frederick John Farre (1854), as famous for his faith in drugs as the accomplished Patrick Black (1860), was for his scepticism about them; Kirkes (1864), whose manual of physiology was known to so many generations of students; and Francis Harris (1868), a pathologist of the school of Virchow, well remembered here for his clinical acuteness, for his varied knowledge, and for his ready wit. Twenty-five of the physicians were Cantabrigians, twenty Oxonians; Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and London have each furnished one; one was a graduate of Berlin, and of one, Dr. Roderigo Lopez, a native of Portugal, the university is unknown. It is sad to have to add that he was hanged on June 17th, 1594, for his share in a plot to murder Queen Elizabeth. Seven were Presidents of their College,—John Clarke (1645), Sir John Micklethwaite (1676), Edward Browne (1704), Richard Tyson,

sen. (1746), William Pitcairn (1775), John Latham (1813), and Sir George Burrows (1871). There was at first but one physician ; in the second half of the seventeenth century there were two ; in 1750 Dr. William Barrowby was elected a third physician ; in 1854 Dr. Frederick John Farre was appointed a fourth ; and the Governors having this month decided to raise the number of physicians to five, we hope soon to congratulate Dr. Farre's successor as lecturer on *materia medica* on his appointment, and to reckon Dr. Lauder Brunton as the fifty-first physician to St. Bartholomew's.

On the surgical side, Sir James Paget happily survives, with a fame unsurpassed by none of his predecessors, though among them were Edward Stanley (1838), William Lawrence (1824), John Abernethy (1815), and Percival Pott (1749) ; with the lesser names of Sir James Earle (1784), Edward Nourse (1745), our first lecturer on surgery, John Freke (1729), and Charles Bernard (1686). Swift, in his "Journal to Stella," speaks of Bernard with affection. He had as extensive a library as his brother, Dr. Francis Bernard (1678). Many of his books are in the library

of the College of Physicians, inscribed in his hand "Caroli Bernard : Chirurg. Lond."

In earlier times there were John Woodhall (1616), the ingenious author of "The Surgeon's Mate," and William Clowes (1575), the most interesting of all the Elizabethan writers on surgery.

Some traces of medical teaching are discoverable very early, but the School was not fully established till soon after the Restoration, nor did it attain large proportions till the time of Abernethy. Since his day it has flourished, and has steadily become more and more highly organised and equipped. There are now twenty-four lecturers, eighteen demonstrators, eleven assistant demonstrators, and seven other teachers.

THE PRESENT ASPECT OF THE HOSPITAL.

Having learnt something of the general history of the Hospital, our visitors may like to know what is to be seen in St. Bartholomew's at the present day.

The parish of St. Bartholomew the Less which is altogether covered by the Hospital, has its church just within the Smithfield Gate. Its walls, of the Perpendicular period, have been much altered in this century, but the tower was in part built before the year 1300, and its floor shows the original level of the church. In the vestry or ante-chapel to the left on entrance rest the remains of John Freke, surgeon from 1729 to 1755. The tomb in which they are placed is of the Perpendicular period, and may perhaps have originally belonged to John Wakeryng, Master from 1422 to 1466, a man devoted to the welfare of the Hospital. Freke was a friend of Hogarth and of Fielding, and though his "Essay to show the Cause

of Electricity, and why some Things are Non-electricable," published in 1748, contains observations and conjectures worth reading, he is probably best known to the world outside St. Bartholomew's, by his mention in "Tom Jones,"¹ in the description of the effect of Black George's switch :

" The whole family were soon reduced to a state of perfect quiet ; for the virtue of this medicine, like that of electricity, is often communicated through one person to many others who are not touched by the instrument. To say the truth, as they both operate by friction, it may be doubted whether there is not something analogous between them, of which Mr. Freke would do well to inquire before he publishes the next edition of his book."

Since "Tom Jones" was published in 1749, and Freke's work in 1748, it is clear that the great novelist had read the essay on the cause of electricity in the first year of its publication. As a surgeon Freke deserves recollection as one of the earlier observers—though in this he only followed his learned predecessor, Charles Bernard, of the true nature of enlarged lymph-

¹ Book iv., chap. ix. He is also mentioned as "Mr. John Fr—, or some other such philosopher," in book ii., chap. iv.

atics in cases of malignant disease. He was an advocate of early paracentesis in cases of empyema. In the steward's office is a handsome chandelier of gilt wood carved by the hand of Freke.

Sir Thomas Bodley, the founder of the great library which bears his name, lived within the Hospital in the reign of James I., and on the north wall of the church is the monument he put up to the memory of his wife Ann, who died in June, 1611.

On the opposite wall is the kneeling figure of Robert Balthrope, sergeant-surgeon to Queen Elizabeth, with an inscription which is difficult to read in the shadow :

“Here Robert Balthrope lyes intombd, to Elizabeth
our Queene,

Who sergeant of the surgeons sworne neere thryte
yeeres hathe beene.

He died at syxtie-nine of yeeres, December's ninthe
the daye,

The yeere of Grace eight hundred twice, deductinge
nine a waye.

Let heere his rotten bones repose, till angell's
trompet sounde,

To warne the worlde of present chaunge and raise
the dead from grounde.

“VIVIT POST FUNERA VIRTUS.”

He lived within the Hospital, and was often seen walking across its court in black satin doublet and round velvet hose, with a black cloth cloak laid with lace and faced with velvet. This was grave attire, but in the country his dress was a white canvas doublet and a pheasant-coloured cloak, with sleeves and cape faced with russet velvet. On his finger he wore a great ring of gold with the seal of his arms. He translated the surgery books of Tagaultius and of Ambrose Paré into English, and left medicines, books, instruments, bottles, boxes, and pots for the use of "the sicke and sore people" in St. Bartholomew's and St. Thomas's Hospitals.

Two brasses in the church deserve particular notice : one in the ante-chapel shows the figures of William Markeby and his wife Alice. He died 11th July, 1439, having lived in a large house with garden and outbuildings within the Hospital gates. The other is a modern brass to the memory of Arthur Jermyn Landon, a former student, whose self-sacrificing request, when mortally wounded in the disastrous battle of Majuba Hill, is rightly commemorated. William Clowes, of St. Bartholomew's, was

present at Zutphen, and may have heard the words which have earned perpetual remembrance and honour for Sir Philip Sidney. Landon's wish in a like condition and place was not less noble. He has a proper successor in heroism among the alumni of this School in Surgeon-Captain Whitchurch, who has this summer been awarded the Victoria Cross for his gallant conduct at Chitral.

Wat Tyler is stated in Stow's "Chronicle" to have been dragged through our Smithfield Gate, after he was struck down by Sir William Walworth, and probably died near the door of the church, then one of the several chapels of the Hospital.

The present quadrangle of the Hospital was built by James Gibbs, the architect of the Fellows' buildings at King's College, Cambridge, of the Radcliffe Library at Oxford, and of the church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and was begun in 1729. All four buildings show that the architect did not work wholly from book, and that he thought out the uses of a building before deciding on its structure. The fellows' buildings at King's provide wholesome well-lit chambers for those learned and hospitable persons ; the

Radcliffe has some peculiar merits, as a place for books; St. Martin's-in-the-Fields is well adapted to accommodate the inhabitants of a populous parish, while the intelligence of Gibbs in considering the purpose of his hospital building is shown in the large central staircases, abundant windows, and deep fireplaces. He made all his work a gift to the Hospital, and Ralph Allen, the friend of Pope and of Fielding, the prototype of Allworthy in "Tom Jones," paid for the facing of Bath stone.

His quadrangle consists of four great blocks, with ample space at the corners. Each is four stories high, allowing room for four wards on each side of a great open staircase. A plain archway leads into each staircase, and the only decorations are the mouldings over the windows, and a balustrade along the parapet. In each ward are great open fireplaces. The bath rooms at the end are modern additions, which add to the efficiency of the wards, and do not injure the design.

The staircase leading to the great hall was decorated by Hogarth, who was born close to the Hospital, in the adjoining parish of St. Bartholomew the Great. Our surgical guests

will observe with interest the good Samaritan employing the method of treating a wound by pouring oil into it, in use till the time of Ambrose Paré; while the physicians will admire in the painting of the Pool of Bethesda the accurate representation of the distribution of psoriasis on the well-rounded limbs of one patient, the contrast of hypertrophy and atrophy on the left of the picture, the gouty hand, the wasted figure with malignant disease of the liver, and the rickety infant.

In the great hall the walls are inscribed with the names of benefactors, which we read as we sit at table, and think of the words used at so many commemorations. "All these were honoured in their generations, and were the glory of their times." Several fine portraits may also occupy the attention of our guests in the pauses of their repast. At one end, to the right of Henry VIII., is the full-length portrait by Kneller, of Sir William Pritchard, President of the Hospital, and a supporter of the court party in the reigns of Charles II. and James II. It was for an alleged attack upon him that Alderman Cornish was tried before Judge Jeffries, and afterwards hanged

at the corner of Queen Street, Cheapside. Kneller's price for this portrait was sixty guineas. He received thirty for another which hangs in the committee room below the hall, that of Edward Colston, a benefactor of this Hospital and of the city of Bristol, to whose memory the Tory citizens of Bristol still drink annually at one tavern, while the Whigs commemorate him at another on the same day. An old lady related to Colston once came to see this portrait, while the author of this brief relation was warden of the college. Climbing on to a chair, she looked intently at the figure, and pointing to the hand, said, "That great and good man was known to have the most beautiful hand of any one of his time in Europe."

Sir Godfrey Kneller is seldom praised now, and he no doubt, like some other fashionable painters, risked fame in the haste to grow rich. These portraits, however, deserve the commendatory remarks which Sir Joshua Reynolds made about Kneller, and may justly recall to our minds Dryden's panegyric in his "Epistle to Sir Godfrey Kneller :"

" Likeness is ever there ; but still the best
Like proper thoughts in lofty language dressed."

The picture is well preserved, and almost deserves the fine lines with which the poet's epistle ends :

“More cannot be by mortal art exprest,
But venerable age shall add the rest;
For Time shall with his ready pencil stand,
Retouch your figures with his ripening hand,
Mellow your colours and imbrown the teint,
Add every grace which time alone can grant;
To future ages shall your fame convey,
And give more beauties than he takes away.”

On the left of King Henry is a portrait of Mr. Bentley, treasurer of the Hospital, who founded a prize in the School for reports of medical and surgical cases.

At the opposite end of the hall, on each side of an Italian painting of the patron, are the portraits of two treasurers, Mr. Foster White and Sir Sydney Waterlow (by Herkomier), to the latter of whom the Hospital owes the idea and first establishment of a convalescent home, an institution which adds much to its power of doing good to the sick poor.

There are two other full-length portraits of presidents, Sir George Carroll, president from 1855—1860, and Matthias Prime Lucas (by

Wilkie), president from 1831 to 1848. On the sides of the hall are the portraits of some of the famous men of the School. The series of surgeons are especially interesting. Percival Pott, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, is the finest as a painting, and well displays the refined and thoughtful countenance of that great surgeon. Abernethy (by Sir Thomas Lawrence) comes next, who had attended the lectures of Pott, and whose services to the School were greatest of all. Then Sir William Lawrence, a pupil of Abernethy, long the first figure in surgery in London, a man of great ability and powerful will, who, after the end of the reign of Abernethy, was for many years dominant in the School, and whom many famous pupils, such as Sir James Paget, Sir William Savory, and Sir George Humphry, declare to have been the most impressive of surgical teachers. We live happily under the kindly rule of his son, Sir Trevor Lawrence, the present treasurer of the Hospital. The advantages to the staff, to the School, and to the patients, of a treasurer who has received a medical education are great, and never since the days of Dr. William Pitcairn, who was also treasurer, have we

been more godly and quietly governed. Paget, Holden, and Savory, all pupils of Lawrence, complete the series. The art of Millais has done its best, but many of us have in our memories better memorials than his fine paintings of the clearness, simplicity, and intense interest of Paget's lectures, and of the genial kindness of the handsome old anatomist, whose book on the bones was in every student's hand, and whose light and cheery manner made every student think him his friend.

The portrait of Savory (by Ouless) scarcely expresses the force of his character, his immoveable fixity in opinion, his power of stately, well-balanced expression, his independence of all conclusions but those of his own discerning mind. John Painter Vincent is now the least known of those whose portraits are here. He was a contemporary of Abernethy, and surgeon to the Hospital from 1816 to 1847.

There are only three portraits of physicians and one of an assistant physician. The physicians in the great hall are Sir George Burrows (1841—1864), Dr. Andrew, happily still living, and Dr. Baly, assistant physician,

all successively lecturers on the principles and practice of medicine. Baly's great distinction as a morbid anatomist and physician is commemorated by a medal awarded every other year at the College of Physicians for distinction in the science of physiology, and Burrows by a prize in this School in pathology, founded by his son, Sir Frederick Abernethy Burrows. The portrait of Dr. Andrew, by Collier, is the happiest of the three, and represents him with his favourite kind of stethescope in his hand, standing, as we all remember him to have often stood in the wards.

“*Jam senior; sed cruda deo viridisque senectus.*”

In the committee room there is a small portrait of Dr. Richard Powell, physician from 1801 to 1824. Besides the portrait of Henry VIII. painted in 1544, and the others already described, that room contains a picture of Sir Nicholas Rainton, president in 1634, in a ruff; of Martin Bond, also treasurer (1619—1636); and of Dr. Radcliffe, justly celebrated as the physician in London who has given for the improvement of medicine the largest share of the fortune he acquired in its practice. Mr. Martin Bond was born in 1558, and was a

merchant adventurer and a member of the Haberdashers' Company. In 1588, when the landing of an invading Spanish force from the Armada was expected, he marched to Tilbury as captain in command of the train-bands of the city, and thereafter remained captain till his death. Stow the historian knew him, and was told by him that Roman coins were found on the site of Aldgate when it was pulled down. Bond laid the foundation stone of the new Aldgate on March 10th, 1607, and afterwards had large representations of two of the coins carved as ornaments on the eastern face of the gate. On the table of the committee room stands a pewter inkstand on which is engraved "The gift of Mr. Martin Bond, 1619."

He is buried in Great St. Helen's, Bishops-gate, and his monument represents him sitting armed in a tent, the curtains of which are upheld by two soldiers.

The steward's office and the house of the clerk or secretary to the Hospital occupy the other end of this side of the court. In the steward's office, besides the gilded chandelier carved by Freke, there are two curious wooden figures representing patients, which formed part

of the ornaments of the Hospital in the seventeenth century.

Over the fireplace there is a fine portrait by Ouless of the present steward, Mr. Mark Morris, who for little short of half a century has been the devoted servant of the Hospital, the kindly interlocutor of patients on their admission, and the friend of every house surgeon and house physician and of the whole permanent staff at St. Bartholomew's. All business relating to the daily diet, and to the admission and discharge of patients, is transacted in the steward's office; while the whole administration, as well as everything relating to rents and property and appointments, is transacted in the clerks' office and renters' office.

The treasurer and four almoners meet weekly in the committee room, and there also the house committee transacts business once a month; while the court of governors, the supreme ruling body of the Hospital, meets in the great hall. By the Court all the physicians and assistant physicians, surgeons and assistant surgeons are elected, and the appointments to the lectureships and other offices made by the house committee are confirmed.

Three of the four blocks which form the great quadrangle, and a newer one standing nearer Smithfield, are occupied by wards. There are at present twenty-seven wards, and the names of those contained in each block are painted on the sides of its doorway. These names have been given for different reasons from time to time, and have undergone several variations. The prescription book of Dr. Francis Bernard, who was physician to the Hospital in the time of Charles II., is preserved in the British Museum, and shows that in his time as in our own the nomenclature was based upon no principle of classification. Some wards were called from their locality, as Cloister ward and Garden ward ; there were two New wards with no other name. Soldiers' ward supplied the want of any military hospital. Diet ward referred to some special treatment, while Long ward was called from its shape. Charity ward was revived a few years ago, while the King's ward of that day survives in the slightly altered form of Henry. In the same reign there were also Mary ward and Katherine ward. The present names are those of benefactors, of virtues, and of examples of virtue. Rahere, the founder,

of course gives his name to one. Colston and Radcliffe are similarly commemorated. Miss Prisca Coborn, a benefactress ; Harley, Darker, Sitwell, and Lucas, treasurers or presidents ; Pitcairn, a physician, afterwards treasurer ; Abernethy, Stanley, and Lawrence, surgeons, are all commemorated. Each evangelist has a ward, and so have Elizabeth and Mary and Martha, and, till lately, Lazarus. Faith and Hope are remembered, and the royal benefactors are represented by the names of the Prince and Princess of Wales, after whom the ophthalmic wards are called. One surgical ward is called Kenton, after a benefactor who had perhaps been treated at the Hospital in his boyhood. Benjamin Kenton was waiter and drawer at the "Crown and Magpie" in Aldgate. The sea-captains who frequented that tavern esteemed his sagacity, because when in the bar he always knew when the candles in the room above needed snuffing. The magpie of pear-tree wood was removed from the stone crown of the sign of the inn, the trade declined, and the landlord died. Kenton was made landlord, and to the delight of the old sea-captains restored the magpie to the crown. He became

possessed of a secret and grew rich. What was the secret? Something for which Walpole or Chatham paid thousands out of the secret service fund, or some old forgotten alchemical gold-producing method? Nothing of the kind. It was the honest useful art of bottling ale so that it could make the voyage round the Cape to India without bursting the cork. This was Mr. Kenton's secret, the source of his fortune, the cause of content to many a hot, weary servant of the East India Company on the arid plains of Hindostan.

To medical guests the arrangements of the wards require no special description. To us they always seem bright and cheerful. The daily records of the cases hanging over each bed are kept in the medical wards by the house physicians; in the surgical wards by the dressers, supervised and aided by the surgical registrar. The medical and surgical registrars see that the notes are bound and indexed every six months. As early as the sixteenth century a statistical report of the cases in the wards was issued. It was brief but forcible :

“There have been healed of the pocques, fystules, filthie blaynes and sores to the nombre of eight

hundred and thence safe delivered, that other having nede myghte entre in their roume. Beside eyght skore and twelve that have there forsaken this life, in their intollerable miseries and grieves whiche else might have died and stoncke on the eyes and noses of the citie."

This is in about five years.

At present the medical and surgical registrars prepare, and the governors print, a volume of useful statistical tables every year; and these are also incorporated in the annual volume of medical essays and observations called the St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports, which is published at the expense of the staff every year.

Each ward is presided over by a sister in blue, under whom is a staff nurse in a striped dress with a blue belt, next to whom comes a staff probationer in a striped dress, and finally one or more probationers in grey. The sisters are now almost invariably chosen from those nurses, otherwise suitable, who have distinguished themselves in the Hospital examinations. The staff nurses have served three years as probationers, and passed an entrance examination in elementary scientific knowledge, and two

subsequent examinations in everything relating to nursing ; the probationers have only passed the entrance examination, and the staff probationers one other. We are confident that no other hospital has a better trained, more willing, or more efficient nursing staff than ours. The matron, who has a house to herself near the Little Britain gate, is the chief of the nursing staff. They attend lectures given once a week in the evening by a medical and a surgical member of the Hospital staff.

There are four operating theatres : the largest, in which also surgical consultations are held every Thursday on cases of interest by the whole surgical staff, is at the end of the newest block, at the top of which is a small theatre for ophthalmic operations. In the east block at the top is a recently constructed and very light theatre, and on the same level in the south block is a theatre, the pride of those who use it, for ovariotomy and other gynæcological operations. The out-patient rooms, post-mortem room, and apothecaries' shop are at the south-west corner outside the quadrangle. At the opposite corner is the large receiving room or casualty department. Near

it are the quarters of the resident staff, to which adjoin the college with the warden's house. This part of the Hospital will probably be rebuilt as soon as some space expected shortly to be vacant is acquired on the other side of the Hospital.

Part of the land between the Smithfield Gate and the casualty department was the place in which people were buried during the suspension of religious ceremonies in the time of interdict in the reign of John. A citizen whose wife was there buried bought the land and gave it to the Hospital.

Between the apse of the church and the casualty department is the vault in which are the remains of Dr. William Pitcairn and Dr. David Pitcairn. The body of Major Pitcairn, who was slain at the Battle of Bunker's Hill in America, is also buried here; he was father of Dr. David Pitcairn.

At the opposite end of the Smithfield front are the School buildings, of which the rebuilding was completed in 1881. Over the door is a slab of green marble with the inscription "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might,"—valuable in its exhortation, and

further interesting to students of medicine because Sydenham, who obeyed the injunction so thoroughly in his work as a physician, inscribed it on the first page of the manuscript of one of his works. The museum is at the top of the building, and is a fine pathological one, in which the earliest specimens are probably two of vertebral disease, mounted by Percival Pott, and figured in his works. The original specimen of *osteitis deformans* described by Paget, and a huge renal calculus from a man who had two large and more than one thousand small ones, are among the rarities of the collection. In each section the appropriate part of the catalogue will be found. A pharmacological laboratory and other workrooms adjoin the museum, as well as a recently added biological laboratory, where excellent work is done by many students under Dr. Shore and his demonstrators. At the top is the public health laboratory of Dr. Klein.

Below the museum is the physiological laboratory of Dr. Klein and Dr. Edkins, and next it the pathological laboratory of Dr. Kanthack. The library occupies the ground-floor, and below it are the students' conversa-

tion room and that of their oldest association—the Abernethian Society, which has just celebrated its centenary. The lecture theatre, dissecting room, and chemical and physical laboratory occupy the space between the library and the apothecaries' shop. The school buildings which these replaced had been the place of education of many memorable students besides the members of the staff already mentioned: of Thomas Young, the author of the undulatory theory of light; of Sir Richard Owen, Dr. Arthur Farre, Sir George Paget, Professor Rolleston, and Sir William Turner; but in no former age have there been more industrious or worthy students than those of to-day. A spirit of work pervades this Hospital, as it does most medical schools of our time, and the present staff are proud to remember that they were the teachers or fellow-students of persons distinguished in every part of our profession, as well as of men such as Milnes-Marshall and Shipley in biology, Edward Granville Browne in Oriental learning, and Robert Bridges in poetry.

On the staircase above the library is a Roman sarcophagus, dug up with its leaden

internal case in the foundations of the building in 1877. It was probably placed there shortly before the termination of the Roman occupation of Britain in 420, and the skeleton it contained was that of the oldest inhabitant of our parish of whom we have any knowledge. He died seven centuries before the Hospital was founded, and since its foundation it has flourished for seven hundred and seventy-two years. We cannot expect that our guests should admire it as much as we do, who have been bred in it and spend our lives in its service. We hope, however, that our enthusiasm for it will give them assurance that we have the warmest fellow-feeling for every institution where medicine and surgery are taught and studied, whether founded yesterday like the splendid medical department of the Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, or before our own foundation like St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham.

The word Utopia is used to express a commonwealth to be wished for rather than hoped after; yet we think that in St. Bartholomew's we have a true Utopia for medicine, with its

opportunities of observation, its noble associations, and its fortunate constitution.

We heartily welcome the whole brotherhood of our profession to it.

JULY 31, 1895.

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